



It's the 70th Anniversary of the Sandhurst Legends of Sport Competition. To win the glittering gold trophy, the players will need to go one better. Read the series and find out who can take the heat.

It's a showdown – whoever takes out the Legend of Cricket trophy is the winner of the Anniversary Legends. Bubba gives us his own spin on the drama between Mitchell and Travis. You won't believe what takes place in *The Last Innings*.

The Anniversary
Legends Book Eight:

About the Story

The Last Innings

Mrs Waite reacted harshly when Travis chased and tackled the motorcycle rider who wrecked the pitch and ruined the game against Wetherhood. She said his behaviour would give Sandhurst school a bad image and disqualified him from earning Legend of Cricket points. Mitchell and his friends then told Mrs Waite that they would not accept any Legend of Cricket points either if Travis's disqualification was to remain in place. Under pressure, Mrs Waite withdrew the disqualification and, as a result, Travis won the Anniversary Legends trophy.

by
Michael Panckridge

In a small group, discuss the following questions:

Teacher Notes
prepared by Garry
Chapman

- Do you think disqualification from the event was fair? Should Travis have had a second chance? Give reasons for your answer.

Readership: Mid-primary to
Lower-Secondary

- Was there any justification for Mrs Waite banning Travis from earning points, given that he endangered himself in tackling the bike rider? Give reasons for your answer.

Genre: Fiction

- Throughout the entire series, Mitch and Travis have not displayed any sign of liking one another? What do you think made Mitch feel so strongly that he offered to give up his own points?

- Did Travis deserve to win the overall Anniversary Legends trophy ahead of Mitch? Give reasons for your answer.

Following your discussion, try to agree on an answer to the following questions:

- What does Mitch's action in Mrs Waite's office suggest about him?

- What sort of relationship do you predict Mitch and Travis might have in the future?

Share your group's ideas with the rest of the class.

Applying an Event from the Story to Real Life

Mitch's act of speaking up on Travis's behalf was a courageous thing to do.

Consider the following questions:

- Can you think of three good arguments for and against what Mitch did?
- Do you know of any real life instances where someone has put themselves at a disadvantage by speaking up for someone else?
- What satisfaction can Mitch take away from the result of the Anniversary Legends.
- What you do if you were put in a similar situation to Mitch? Give reasons for your answer.

Imagine you had to draft a speech congratulating the winner and the runner-up in the boys' Anniversary Legends competition. Write a few paragraphs detailing what you would say.

About the Characters

Travis is one character who changed considerably during the course of events in this book. Choose six events from the story and write about the change in Travis as a result of that event.

| Event | What happened | What effect did this have on Travis? |
|-------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |

Write a statement explaining how a series of events can bring about a marked change in a person. Use Travis as your example, but also use real life examples if you know of any.

About the Sport

Despite Bubba making a lot of runs when he batted, few of his teammates played very well against St Patrick's. Mr Bronsen reminded his players that cricket is a team game and that each of them had to try to make a positive contribution to the team.

When you play cricket, what contribution can you potentially make to the team effort

when you are one of the following players? (You may have to think hard to answer some of these – hint: some of your contributions may take place off the field.)

| Your role in team | When your team is batting | When your team is bowling |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Selected as batsman | | |
| Selected as bowler | | |
| Selected as an all-rounder | | |
| Selected as a wicketkeeper | | |
| Selected as twelfth man | | |

Word Study

Mr Fisk promised Bubba’s parents that there would be no misunderstandings – no risks to his safety – if he played in the Legend of Cricket.

- What effect does the prefix ‘mis’ have when placed at the beginning of the word ‘understanding’?
- Can you think of six other words which can have their meaning changed by adding the prefix ‘mis’ to the beginning of the word?

Mrs Waite disqualified Travis from earning any points in the Legend of Cricket.

- Does ‘dis’ have a similar effect to ‘mis’ when it is used as a prefix at the beginning of a word?
- What is the meaning of the word ‘disqualify’?
- Can you think of six other words which can have their meaning changed by adding the prefix ‘dis’ to the beginning of the word?

About the Author



Michael Panckridge is a teacher at Geelong College and has been working there for 12 years. He is pretty mad-keen on sport. He has played cricket, football, soccer, tennis, hockey, golf. He also collects sporting things. He has a massive collection of football cards and lots of cricket books too.

Michael lives in Geelong, Victoria with his partner Jo, and daughters Eliza and Bronte. This family also own a dog named Oscar and five fish (Angel, Fred, Luther, Ugly and Even Uglier). (Michael insists that he’s never actually seen five fish at the one time. He also adds that the neighbours on both sides own cats!)